

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, and 46. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1. (Currently Amended) A method for calibrating a camera comprising the steps of:
digitizing an image of a blank textureless surface having a uniform illumination;
from the digitized image, determining pixel intensity drop off caused by a vignetting effect; and
computing an intrinsic parameter of the camera other than pixel intensity drop off using substantially only the determined pixel intensity drop off such that camera calibration is achieved according to the determined pixel intensity drop off to the exclusion of other image factors.
2. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the pixel intensity drop off is also caused by an off-axis pixel projection effect.
3. Canceled.
4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the step of computing is dependent on a camera tilt effect.
5. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising the step of computing the parameters of a model by minimizing the difference between the digitized image and the model.
6. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for calibrating a camera, the computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable code thereon, including program code which:

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retrieves a digitized image of a blank textureless surface having a uniform illumination;

from the digitized image, determines pixel intensity drop off caused by a vignetting effect; and

computes an intrinsic parameter of the camera other than pixel intensity drop off based on substantially only the determined drop off such that camera calibration is achieved according to determined pixel intensity drop off to the exclusion of other image factors.

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7. (Previously Presented) The computer program product as claimed in claim 6 wherein the pixel intensity drop off is also caused by an off-axis pixel projection effect.
 8. Canceled.
 9. (Previously Presented) The computer program product as claimed in claim 6 wherein the program code computes parameters based on a camera tilt effect.
 10. (Previously Presented) The computer program product as claimed in claim 6 wherein the program code computes parameters of a model by minimizing difference between the digitized image and the model.
 11. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:
 - a memory system;
 - an I/O system connected to the memory system;
 - a storage device connected to the I/O system; and
 - a calibration routine located in the memory system responsive to a request for calibrating a camera which:
 - retrieves a digitized image of a blank textureless surface having a uniform illumination;

from the digitized image, determines pixel intensity drop off caused by a vignetting effect; and

computes an intrinsic parameter of the camera other than pixel intensity drop off based on substantially only the determined drop off such that camera calibration is achieved according to the determined pixel intensity drop off to the exclusion of other image factors.

12. (Previously Presented) The computer system as claimed in claim 11 wherein the drop off effects are also caused by an off-axis pixel projection effect.
13. Canceled.
14. (Previously Presented) The computer system as claimed in claim 11 wherein the calibration routine computes parameters dependent on a camera tilt effect.
15. (Previously Presented) The computer system as claimed in claim 11 wherein the calibration routine computes parameters of a model stored in the storage device, by minimizing difference between the digitized image and the model.
16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for calibrating a camera comprising:
- means for digitizing an image of a blank textureless surface having a uniform illumination;
 - means for determining pixel intensity drop off in the digitized image caused by a vignetting effect; and
 - means for computing an intrinsic parameter of the camera other than pixel intensity drop off using substantially only the determined pixel intensity drop off such that camera calibration is achieved according to the determined pixel intensity drop off with the exclusion of other image factors.

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17. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 16 wherein the pixel intensity drop off is also caused by an off-axis pixel projection effect.
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19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 16 wherein the means for computing computes parameters based on a camera tilt effect.
20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 16 wherein the means for computing further comprises means for computing parameters of a model by minimizing difference between the digitized image and the model.
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21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for calibrating a camera comprising:
a retrieval routine which retrieves a digitized image of a blank textureless surface having a uniform illumination;
a routine which determines pixel intensity drop off in the digitized image caused by a vignetting effect; and
a parameter computing routine which computes an intrinsic parameter of the camera other than the pixel intensity drop off using substantially only the determined pixel intensity drop off such that camera calibration is achieved according to the determined pixel intensity drop off with the exclusion of other image factors.
22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 21 wherein the drop off effects are also caused by an off-axis pixel projection effect.
23. Canceled.
24. Canceled.

25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 21 wherein the parameter computing routine further comprises a model routine which computes parameters of a model by minimizing difference between the digitized image and the model.
26. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the intrinsic parameter is selected from the group consisting of focal length, principal point, skew and aspect ratio.
27. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the intrinsic parameter is focal length.
28. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the intrinsic parameter is principal point.
29. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the intrinsic parameter is skew.
30. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the intrinsic parameter is aspect ratio.
31. (Previously Presented) The computer program product as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the intrinsic parameter is selected from the group consisting of focal length, principal point, skew and aspect ratio.
32. (Previously Presented) The computer program product as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the intrinsic parameter is focal length.
33. (Previously Presented) The computer program product as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the intrinsic parameter is principal point.

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34. (Previously Presented) The computer program product as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the intrinsic parameter is skew.
35. (Previously Presented) The computer program product as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the intrinsic parameter is aspect ratio.
36. (Previously Presented) The computer system as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the intrinsic parameter is selected from the group consisting of focal length, principal point, skew and aspect ratio.
37. (Previously Presented) The computer system as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the intrinsic parameter is focal length.
38. (Previously Presented) The computer system as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the intrinsic parameter is principal point.
39. (Previously Presented) The computer system as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the intrinsic parameter is skew.
40. (Previously Presented) The computer system as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the intrinsic parameter is aspect ratio.
41. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 16 wherein the intrinsic parameter is selected from the group consisting of focal length, principal point, skew and aspect ratio.
42. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 16 wherein the intrinsic parameter is focal length.

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43. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 16 wherein the intrinsic parameter is principal point.
44. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 16 wherein the intrinsic parameter is skew.
45. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 16 wherein the intrinsic parameter is aspect ratio.
46. (Currently Amended) A method for calibrating a camera comprising the steps of:
digitizing an image of a blank textureless surface having a uniform illumination;
from the digitized image, determining pixel intensity drop off caused by a vignetting effect; and
computing focal length of the camera using substantially only the determined pixel intensity drop off, such that camera calibration is achieved according to the determined pixel intensity drop off to the exclusion of other image factors.
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